

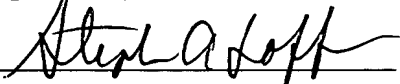
**REMARKS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Dated: August 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Stephen A. Soffen

Registration No.: 31,063  
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP  
1825 Eye Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006-5403  
(202) 420-4879  
Attorney for Applicant